

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 357

By Berke

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Jack Murrah for receiving the Arts Leadership Award.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Jack Murrah, retired President of the Lyndhurst Foundation, who recently received the prestigious Governor's Arts Leadership Award for his philanthropic and restorative work in the community of Chattanooga; and

WHEREAS, the Governor's Arts Leadership Award is given to exemplary individuals who represent arts organizations, corporations, or businesses or who serve as educators, patrons, art administrators, or volunteers and have demonstrated significant support or participation in activities that foster excellence in, appreciation of, or access to the arts throughout the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, for more than thirty years, Jack Murrah led Chattanooga, his region, and this State in forceful and innovative directions in art and culture, influencing the way Tennesseans live in cities, how children are educated, and how artists are supported; and

WHEREAS, through his assiduous work with the Lyndhurst Foundation in Chattanooga, Mr. Murrah has secured grants and has demonstrated the utmost creativity as well as a wide-ranging, change-oriented leadership strategy which maintains clear vision and insight and offers valuable guidance; and

WHEREAS, Jack Murrah retired from his position as President of the Lyndhurst Foundation in 2008 after serving as a deeply valued member of the staff for thirty years; and

WHEREAS, the Lyndhurst Foundation focuses its resources on the revitalization of urban neighborhoods in downtown Chattanooga, the conservation of the natural assets of the community and the region, the cultivation of a more diverse and dynamic culture and economy through investments in creative people and enterprises, and the strengthening of public education; and

WHEREAS, an advocate in the field of philanthropy, Mr. Murrah has stood as Chair of the Southeastern Council of Foundations and as a Trustee of the National Center for Family Philanthropy; and

WHEREAS, a former teacher and passionate supporter of public education, he assisted in the establishment of the Chattanooga School for Arts and Sciences, the Public Education Foundation, and the national Rural School and Community Trust; and

WHEREAS, Jack Murrah currently represents the Third Congressional District on the Tennessee Higher Education Commission; and

WHEREAS, a believer in the potential of his home community, he assembled local funders to create Chattanooga Impact, a partnership for neighborhood renewal, and he has also given of his time and energy as an adviser to the RiverCity Company, a downtown redevelopment agency; and

WHEREAS, a respected and admired community leader who works to build up the next generation, Mr. Murrah also helped establish CreateHere, a collective of young people committed to social, cultural, and economic innovation; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Jack Murrah for his dedication to the community of Chattanooga and upon his recent honor as recipient of the Governor's Arts Leadership Award; now, therefore.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and recognize Jack Murrah for his outstanding leadership in the movement to revitalize Chattanooga, congratulate him for receiving the Governor's Arts Leadership Award, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.